

In the claims:

Please enter the following amendments:

1. **(Previously Presented)** A nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide product comprising a first and second chromo/fluorescent domain, wherein said first and second chromo/fluorescent domains associate with each other under intracellular conditions so that said encoded polypeptide assumes a tertiary structure.
2. **(Original)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 1, wherein said first and second chromo/fluorescent domains are oligomeric producing domains.
3. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 2, wherein said chromo/fluorescent domains are chromo-or fluorescent proteins from a ~~Cnidarian~~ **Cnidarian** species or mutants of chromo-or fluorescent proteins from a ~~Cnidarian~~ **Cnidarian** species.
4. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 3, wherein said ~~Cnidarian~~ **Cnidarian** species is a non-bioluminescent ~~Cnidarian~~ **Cnidarian** species.
5. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 4, wherein said non-bioluminescent ~~Cnidarian~~ **Cnidarian** species is an ~~Anthozoan~~ **Anthozoan** species.
6. **(Original)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a fusion protein of said first and second chromo/fluorescent domains fused to a non-chromo/fluorescent protein domain.
7. **(Original)** A construct comprising a vector and a nucleic acid according to Claim 1.
8. **(Original)** An expression cassette comprising:

- (a) a transcriptional initiation region functional in an expression host;
- (b) a nucleic acid according to Claim 1; and
- (c) a transcriptional termination region functional in said expression host.

9. **(Original)** A cell, or the progeny thereof, comprising an expression cassette according to Claim 8 as part of an extrachromosomal element or integrated into the genome of a host cell as a result of introduction of said expression cassette into said host cell.

10. **(Original)** A method of producing a polypeptide product comprising a first and second chromo/fluorescent domain, said method comprising:
growing a cell according to Claim 9, whereby said polypeptide product is expressed.

Claims 11-15. (Canceled)

16. **(Withdrawn)** In an application that employs a nucleic acid encoding a chromo- or fluorescent protein, the improvement comprising:
employing a nucleic acid according to Claim 1.

17. **(Original)** A kit comprising a nucleic acid according to Claim 1.

18. **(Previously Presented)** A nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide product comprising a first and second chromo/fluorescent domain, wherein said first and second chromo/fluorescent domains are oligomeric producing domains and associate with each other under intracellular conditions so that said encoded polypeptide assumes a tertiary structure.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 18, wherein said chromo/fluorescent domains are chromo-or fluorescent proteins from a Cnidarian Cnidarian species or mutants of chromo-or fluorescent proteins from a Cnidarian Cnidarian species.

20. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 19, wherein said ~~Cnidarian~~ Cnidarian species is a non-bioluminescent ~~Cnidarian~~ Cnidarian species.

21. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 20, wherein said non-bioluminescent ~~Cnidarian~~ Cnidarian species is an ~~Anthozoan~~ Anthozoan species.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The nucleic acid according to Claim 18, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a fusion protein of said first and second chromo/fluorescent domains fused to a non-chromo/fluorescent protein domain.

23. **(Previously Presented)** A construct comprising a vector and a nucleic acid according to Claim 18.

24. **(Previously Presented)** An expression cassette comprising:
(a) a transcriptional initiation region functional in an expression host;
(b) a nucleic acid according to Claim 18; and
(c) a transcriptional termination region functional in said expression host.

25. **(Previously Presented)** A cell, or the progeny thereof, comprising an expression cassette according to Claim 24 as part of an extrachromosomal element or integrated into the genome of a host cell as a result of introduction of said expression cassette into said host cell.

26. **(Previously Presented)** A method of producing a polypeptide product comprising a first and second chromo/fluorescent domain, said method comprising:
growing a cell according to Claim 25, whereby said polypeptide product is expressed.